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C) CH K. K. ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for attenuating an optical beam is provided, and in one

embodiment, a communication beam and associated alignment beam are

generated by a beam generating element. The alignment beam may later be

sampled by a sensor that can provide a relative location of the alignment beam

with respect to the sensor. The communication beam may then be positioned

so that a desired percentage of the communication beam enters an output fiber.

Information, such as alignment beam offset, may be used to position the

communication beam. In another embodiment, optical beam attenuation may

be provided by using one or more reflecting devices, such as a MEMS device.

In this configuration, a MEMS device may position a focused communication

beam in such a manner that a desired percentage of the communication beam

enters an output fiber.

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Barrett

Invention:

Method For Providing Variable Optical Attenuation

Inventor:

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